



DISTRICT 15 DISTRICT COUNCIL

September 21, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

District Council = Club Presidents, Club Vice Presidents Education, Area Directors, Division Directors and the District Executive Committee

District Executive Committee = District Public Relations Manager, District Administration Manager, District Finance Manager, Club Growth Director, Program Quality Director, District Director

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Toastmasters International/District Mission

Mission, Values, and Envisioned Future

The mission statement, the value statement, and envisioned future succinctly express the function of each organizational unit.

Toastmasters International Mission

We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Club Mission

We provided supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self- confidence and personal growth.

Toastmasters International Values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Excellence

Toastmasters International Envisioned Future

To be the first-choice provider of dynamic, high-value, experiential communication and leadership skills development

District 15

District Council Annual Business Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2023

Meeting called to order by District Director Annette Krause, DTM.at 6:00 P.M.

Agenda was presented and adopted with no objection.

Officials for the meeting were: Sarra Idehen, Program Quality Director, who will monitor chat for any questions or motions. Sarra is a member of Image Masters. Jaysee Jimenez, Club Growth Director. Jaysee is a member of More Toasting. More Doing. Maria Cervantes, Credentials Committee Chair. Maria is a member of HP Speakeasies.

62 eligible clubs in the district, 2 votes per club. 41 clubs needed to be represented so the quorum was not met. Credentials report adopted without objection.

Presentation of the past meeting minutes and adopted with no objection.

Presentation of District Leader Committee Nominations Report by Maria Cervantes, DTM:

Position	Nominee
District Director	Sarra Idehen #6875

Per Protocol 9.0 Section 3, paragraph F, we must have 2 candidates for the club growth director role. We only had one candidate and they ran from the floor. The following also ran from the floor:

Positions	Nominee
Club Growth Director	Sameer Deshmukh
Division A Director	Deborah Whitman
Division B Director	Madeline Armendariz Odeh

No questions on the nominations report.

Continued with the voting items. Items were as follows:

Realignment eliminating Division E. Removal of Division E from event rotation. Remove Division E from the District Operational Guidelines.

No questions on the voting items.

Since quorum was not met, voting was conducted by email. Voting links sent to Club Presidents and Vice President Education by 8 PM. Voting window was 7 days or when quorum was reached.

Business completed and the 2023 District 15 Executive Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

Credentials Report

Madam District Director,

A quorum for the District Council is defined as one-third of all the Club Presidents and Club Vice Presidents Education.

There being 53 Clubs in District 15, the quorum for this meeting is set at 35

The Credentials Committee has registered members.

A quorum (is / is not) established.

In addition, there are registered members of the Executive Committee not otherwise members of the District Council for a total of ____ votes possible to be cast.

With regards to adopting the agenda, approving the minutes from the last business meeting, proposing new business, and adjourning the meeting, District Services has advised that this is not necessary.

However, proxies and credentials are needed at this business meeting to approve the budget and two resolutions presented by members at large.

In the event a quorum has not been established, the District Council and District Executive Council will be notified by email, and the budget and resolutions may be ratified then.



District #: 15
 Budget Currency: USD
 Fiscal Year 2023-2024

	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total
Membership Dues Allocation	199	618	6,928	1,540	543	218	377	1,248	5,774	1,817	292	768	20,323
Conference revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,150	-	14,150
Fundraising revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,712	3,712
Education and Training revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District store revenue	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,500
Speech contest revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total revenue	199	618	7,428	1,540	543	218	377	1,248	5,774	2,817	14,442	4,480	39,685
TI Allocation Expense	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	924
Conference expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,800	-	13,800
Fundraising expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District store expense	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,500
Marketing Outside Toastmasters expense	35	35	35	180	-	-	-	50	180	-	-	-	515
Recognition expense	-	-	-	630	-	-	-	125	-	-	-	50	805
Club Growth expense	-	-	75	140	205	-	490	-	600	300	-	725	2,535
Public Relations expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education & training expense	-	-	300	-	-	-	150	-	130	-	-	300	880
Speech contest expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	255	175	80	-	510
Administration expense	40	40	840	70	-	140	720	40	50	40	150	1,079	3,209
Food and Meals expense	-	1,050	-	-	50	-	450	-	-	-	-	-	1,550
Travel expense	-	2,745	225	-	110	-	195	-	-	-	50	120	3,445
Lodging expense	-	8,146	750	-	300	-	2,400	-	-	-	-	-	9,596
	152	10,093	2,802	1,097	742	217	4,482	292	1,292	1,592	14,157	2,351	39,269
District net income/(loss)	47	(9,475)	4,626	443	(199)	1	(4,105)	956	4,482	1,225	285	2,129	416

We, the undersigned, certify that this budget and narrative cover estimated receipts and expenditures for the district year. This budget directs the financial resources entrusted to the district toward achieving the district mission and will be presented to the district council for approval at its next meeting.

District Director	Date
Program Quality Director	Date
Club Growth Director	Date
Finance Manager	Date

<u>Break even</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Policy</u>
Conference	14,150	13,800	350	Meets Policy
Fundraising	3,712	-	3,712	Meets Policy
District Store	1,500	1,500	-	Meets Policy
Minimum Expense Type		Expense	%	Policy
Marketing Outside Toastmasters		515	2.5%	5.0%
Maximum Expense Type		Expense	%	Policy
Education and Training		880	4.3%	15.0%
Marketing Outside Toastmasters		515	2.5%	10.0%
Club Growth		2,535	12.5%	15.0%
Public Relations		-	0.0%	10.0%
Recognition		805	4.0%	20.0%
Travel		3,445	17.0%	25.0%
Lodging		9,596	47.2%	15.0%
Food and Meals		1,550	7.6%	15.0%
Speech Contest		510	2.5%	5.0%
Administration		3,209	15.8%	10.0%
Total Membership Dues		20,323	100.0%	

One of the expense categories is under the policy min. Please review and adjust appropriately.

One of the expense categories is over the policy max. Please review and adjust appropriately.

Officers to be Confirmed

District 15 Director Sarra Idehen dd@district15speaks.org

Program Quality Director Kandi Kutkas pqd@district15speaks.org

Club Growth Director Sameer Deshmukh cgd@district15speaks.org

Administration Manager Emily Lamoreaux admin@district15speaks.org

Finance Manager Jimmy Bell fm@district15speaks.org

Public Relations Manager Trevor Nelson prm@district15speaks.org

Director Division A Director Deborah Whitman A@district15speaks.org

Area A1 Director Steven Schofield A1@district15speaks.org

Area A2 Director Deborah Crutchfield A2@district15speaks.org

Area A3 Director Tammy McMorrow A3@district15speaks.org

Division B Director Margaret White B@district15speaks.org

Area B1 Director Greg Alvord B1@district15speaks.org

Area B2 Director Al Kunz B2@district15speaks.org

Area B3 Director Pamela Lattin B3@district15speaks.org

Division C Director Madeline Armendariz Odeh C@district15speaks.org

Area C1 Director Richard Carr C1@district15speaks.org

Area C2 Director Jaysee Jimenez C2@district15speaks.org

Area C3 Director Margaret Carr C3@district15speaks.org

Division D Director Christine Groberg D@district15speaks.org

Area D1 Director Janine Donald D1@district15speaks.org

Area D2 Director Lionel Furness D2@district15speaks.org

Area D3 Director David Garbrecht D3@district15speaks.org

Area D4 Director Bryan Dowdy D4@district15speaks.org

District Director Report

Sarra Idehen, DTM

I am excited! I'm excited by the expectation that our District can be Distinguished in 2023-2024. I believe that is an achievable expectation. Especially since we have made good progress in moving beyond the challenges of the pandemic. Our clubs are meeting in person again as well as conducting hybrid meetings. Various clubs are expanding their membership which adds to the positive member experience and member retention. Sixteen of our clubs earned Distinguished, Select Distinguished or President's Distinguished last term. That's an increase of almost 50% over the previous year. As we continue this momentum it is very possible for us to end the 6/30/24 year with 22 to 27 Distinguished clubs. It's possible.

We are promoting incentives that we believe will aid in member growth, retention, and increased member engagement. Check out the incentives on our website and please participate. We are pleased with the improvements to our District website, and we look forward to continued improvements throughout the year and beyond.

We have our eyes wide open to chartering four new clubs this year. We need your help in identifying new club leads in your areas or communities, and some of you will be needed to be new club sponsors and mentors. Please let the Club Growth Director know of any leads you become aware of. Among the four new chartered clubs we anticipate at least one specialty club and a new prison club. While reaching out to attain new clubs, we must continue to support our existing clubs and help them achieve excellence.

Ninety-three percent (93%) of our division and areas directors have met the required training for their positions this year. Most recently, division and area directors attended a one-day training/retreat in Salt Lake City. We still have work to do to get more club officers to attend training. For example: 22% of our clubs had 1 to 3 officers trained and 7% had no club officers attend training. Our target for the upcoming Winter training sessions is to have 7 of 7 officers trained in those clubs having a full slate of officers, and no less than four (4) officers trained in clubs with 4 – 6 officers. We haven't forgotten those clubs whose officers are stretched to the limit by carrying two to three officer roles to keep the club afloat. Our Club Growth Director along with the Club Retention Chair will be working hard to help clubs increase membership thus relieving the double-triple duty among club officers.

Our Program Quality Director is promoting a campaign that encourages clubs to achieve 5 DCP (Distinguished Club Program) goals by December 30. Two of the 5 goals could be achieved when officer's lists are submitted to TI on time, dues renewals submitted by Oct 1/

Apr 1, and when club officers are trained twice a year (4 minimum). The remaining three goals could be achieved through members completing Pathways education levels. Working to achieve five DCP goals early in the year frees up the rest of the year for increasing membership and sustaining club quality -- taking advantage of the Toastmasters Membership Building Campaigns in February/March and May/June, conducting Open Houses, SpeechCraft, and Youth Leadership Programs, and planning strategic uses of social media.

We will continue our efforts to provide timely communication of events and other information to division and area directors for dissemination to clubs and their members. Please check your spam folder often. It has been known to collect some of the correspondence from the District.

We have great expectations this year. Meeting those expectations will not be easy. There may be times when we get tired and discouraged. But we will continue because we know it is not over until it's over: Midnight June 30, 2024.

Wishing you good health, safe travels, and much success in all your endeavors.

Have a great year!

Sarra Idehen, DTM
District Director
2023-2024

Program Quality Director Report Kandi Kutkas, EC5

I am looking forward to a year of productive clubs to make our District distinguished this year.

The last few years have been a bit rocky. With the new energy of meeting in person, new ideas for incentives for clubs to meet their DCP goals, increased communication with the international leaders, down to District leadership communicating with the clubs what they have learned and to the positive environment of belonging to Toastmasters.

I think it is going to be sensational having our Spring Conference in Twin Falls, ID. This will be the first time since I've been a Toastmaster that the Conference has been outside Utah. Division B is hosting the conference, and we are gearing up to have fantastic speakers who are going to entertain us and motivate us to excel to the highest along with exhilarating speech contests to round out the enjoyment. Toastmasters International has informed us they will be sending an International Director to our conference again this year. Wow! Aren't we special!

We are cranking out big plans for the conference and want you to be there with us sharing every exciting moment. So, mark your calendars for May 17 & 18, 2024 in Twin Falls, ID!

I am looking forward to all the fabulous plans we have for 2023-2024, including the district meeting Distinguished this year. Excited to be part of the team that is going to make it happen.

Kandi Kutkas, EC5

Program Quality Director 2023-2024

Club Growth Director Report Sameer Deshmukh, DL5, EC5

As we stand on the threshold of a new Toastmasters year, I am brimming with excitement about the fresh opportunities that await us in 2023-2024.

Reflecting on my own journey, I can't help but recognize the profound positive impact the Toastmasters program has had on my personal and professional life. It has been a journey marked by growth, connections, and unforgettable experiences. Serving in various roles, from club officer to President, Area/Division Director, and Public Relations Manager, allowed me to connect with fellow members, learn from your incredible speeches, and collaborate on the fun and rewarding team efforts behind Toastmasters events. It's these moments that have made this journey truly memorable.

Now, in my role as District 15 Club Growth Director, I am thrilled to embark on a new adventure with all of you. Together, we will focus on achieving Club Success. We've already hit the ground running this year with some exceptional Club Officer Training sessions, and our commitment to Club Success remains unwavering. The future of our District is well within our grasp, and it will be shaped by our collective efforts.

I encourage each and every one of you to reach out over email if you have any questions or ideas related to club growth, club building, or membership development. Your input and enthusiasm are invaluable to our success.

The future of our District is a collective endeavor, and I wholeheartedly invite all of you to join the team.

Together, we will mold it into a remarkable Distinguished Year.

Best,

Sameer B. Deshmukh, DL5, EC5

District 15 Club Growth Director

Email: CGD@District15Speaks.org

**Public Relations Manager Report
Trevor Nelson, DTM**

Voting Items

Previous Meeting Minutes

Budget

Confirmation of Officers

District Speech Contest Method

- Hybrid
- Online only
- In person only

The Board of Directors has made an exception to the *Speech Contest Rulebook* and determined that all speech contests at the Area, Division, and District levels may be conducted either in person only, online only, or in a hybrid format for the 2023-2024 speech contest cycle.

In-person contests are defined as those in which all participants are onsite at the specified contest location. Online contests are defined as those in which all participants are online. Hybrid contests are defined as those in which some participants (contestants and judges) are onsite in a physical location, and others are online.

When selecting a contest format, consider the additional resources required to successfully support the chosen format. If you are considering a hybrid or online contest, review the [Online and Hybrid Speech Contest Best Practices](#) document from the 2022-2023 program year and consider details such as:

- Cost of the online platform needed to support your contest needs
- Cost of audiovisual (AV) equipment needed to run your selected contest format
- Additional supporting roles needed
 1. For example, you may need people to run your technology, support contest officials and contestants, and coordinate logistics
- Additional contest official roles needed
 1. For example, hybrid contests typically require a set of timers that are present online and a set present onsite

After evaluating these needs, ensure the selected format will not take critical resources away from initiatives that support the District mission and success in the District Recognition Program.

Your District Executive Committee must recommend the selected speech contest format (in person, online, or hybrid) for each level (Area, Division, and District) to the District Council for approval no later than September 30 to allow for proper budgeting. Once a format is approved for each level, no changes can be made.

Regardless of the contest format your team selects, all contests must be conducted live, with all speech contestants and contest officials participating during the event. Judging must be completed by the end of each respective contest.

District 15 Past District Governors/Directors

2022-23 Annette Krause, DTM	1990-91 Michelle Wood, DTM Distinguished
2021-22 Maria Cervantes, DTM	1989-90 Lawrence Geisler, DTM* Select
2020-21 Annette Krause, DTM	Distinguished
2019-20 Kris Provant, DTM	1988-89 Michelle (Keller) Morrison, DTM
2018-19 Lori Welter, DTM, Select Distinguished	1987-88 Fran Duffield, DTM
2017-18 Donna Oswald, DTM	1986-87 Dan Gomez, DTM Distinguished
2016-17 Lori Welter, DTM	1985-86 Julia Ward, DTM * Distinguished
2015-16 Steve Piet, DTM	1984-85 Ruth Bergreen, DTM
2014-15 Ellie Thomson, DTM	1983-84 Robert Keller, DTM *
2013-14 Lloyd Alexander, ACS, ALB	1982-83 Louie Peterson, DTM Select
2012-13 Annette Krause, DTM	Distinguished
2011-12 Emmy Jones, DTM	1981-82 George Miller, DTM
2010-11 Peggy Carr, DTM	1980-81 Ken Anderson, ATM
2009-10 Dave Manning, DTM	1979-80 Art Scott, DTM Distinguished
2008-09 James Jackson, DTM Distinguished	1978-79 Joan Haynes, DTM Distinguished
2007-08 Michael Rusnack, DTM Select	1977-78 Bernie Sabato, ATM Distinguished
Distinguished	1976-77 Sid Smith, DTM Distinguished
2006-07 Susan M Baer, DTM Distinguished	1975-76 Neil DePue, ATM
2005-06 Jerry Allen, DTM Distinguished	1974-75 Rulon Wood, DTM President's
2004-05 Sandy Koch, DTM	Distinguished
2003-04 Shirley Howard, ACS	1973-74 Marvin Kline, DTM *
2002-03 Victor Hernandez, DTM Distinguished	1972-73 Warren Reeves, DTM *
Rose Johnson-Tsosie, DTM	1971-72 Addison Barry, ATM
2001-02 Duane L Evans, DTM Distinguished	1970-71 Richard Meyer, ATM * Distinguished
2000-01 Sue Potter, DTM * Distinguished	1969-70 Conrad Peterson, ATM *
1999-00 Victor Hernandez, DTM Distinguished	1968-69 Royal Slotten
1998-99 Emma L Smith, DTM * President's	1967-68 Wayne Stout
Distinguished	1966-67 Royal Mursener, DTM
1997-98 Richard Carr, ATM	1965-66 C James Barber
1996-97 Michael Taylor, ATM	1964-65 Gail Miller
1995-96 Nancy Mackey, DTM	1963-64 Charles Spencer *
1994-95 Billie Jones, DTM Distinguished	1962-63 Robert Walker *
1993-94 John Howard, DTM * Distinguished	1962-63 Allen Manning *
1992-93 Lew Newren, DTM	1961-62 C S Bosquest *
1991-92 Judith Price, DTM	1960-61 William Kerr *

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1959-60 Donald Durrel *

1958-59 W W Lord *

1957-58 G W Carson *

1956-57 Daniel Edwards *

1955-56 Richard Keim *

1954-55 Clarence Harder *

1953-54 Wayne Chapman *

1952-53 Laren Neher *

1951-52 Bert Larson *

1950-51 D J Bothne *

1949-50 David Tate *

1948-49 Merwin Hembolt *

1947-48 H Fred Garrett *

1946-47 Kenneth Robb *

1945-46 Earl Olson *

**Past District Governors who have moved into
District 15**

Donald Walton, DTM

Sue Monroe, DTM

Past International Directors

1995-97 John Howard, DTM *

1980-82 Marvin Kline, DTM *

1978-80 Sid Smith, DTM

1974-76 Warren Reeves, DTM *

1971-73 Conrad Peterson, DTM14

Announcements

(Subject to change)

Dues renewal – Now

Submit your award nominations: Link Pending

District Bingo begins October 1, 2023

Fall Event – October 21, 2023

Registration Link: Pending

Winter Club Officer Training – December 9, 2023

Speech contests begin: (International and Table Topics)

Club Contests – February 2024

Area – March 2024

Division – April 2024

District Conference – May 17th and 18th 2024